

New Customer Service Representatives



The department welcomes our new Customer Service Representatives Ms. Clothida Onyegbule and Mr. William Wright.

Payne Elementary School gets Fire Safety Education

After the tragic fire in the 400 block of 17th Street, SE on December 20, Fire Marshal Kenneth Watts, members of the Fire Prevention Division, Fire Safety Educators, and members of Engine Company 8 organized an education event at Payne Elementary School for January 5. This fire took the lives of two adults and two children; one a student at



Deputy Fire Chief Mike Sellito's 26 years of service was honored during a luncheon at Engine 2 on December 17. The former head of DCFEMS Special Operations Division retired December 23 and is now working for The Department of Homeland Security.

Payne. During two assemblies, students were taught important fire safety lessons – always have working smoke alarms, never touch matches or lighters, and make sure your family has and practices an exit plan for the home. Students also got to watch an Engine 8 firefighter put on all his PPE so they would know not to be afraid if firefighters ever have to come into their homes. Each student was given a fire escape planning grid to work on with their families.

DCFEMS 4-1-1

Congratulations to Deputy Fire Chief James Short as he retires after 33 years of service on January 21, 2005.

Congratulations to Paramedic Alvin E. Scott on his retirement after serving 30 years on the job.

Kudos to Ibrahim Koroma, FEMS Fiscal Officer, for winning a pair of tickets to the Redskins last game of the season from a citywide DC One Fund Incentive Awards Drawing.

The department regrets the passing of the following retired members:

- Retired Firefighter Joseph L. Ford who passed away on December 24,
- Retired Chief William H. Rodgers who passed away on January 11, and
- Retired Firefighter William J. Cambrel who passed away on January 25, 2005.



BEACON

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(Right) Lt. Sean Egan (E-16-3) presents a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the Department to US Marine Staff Sergeant Fair of the Toys for Tots Campaign as FC Thompson and cadets look on.

Toys for Tots

Thank you to all who contributed new unwrapped toys for the Department's second year collecting toys for the US Marine Corp Reserves Toys for Tots Program. DCFEMS' collection boxes gathered more than 5,000 toys for the 2004 Toys for Tots Campaign. On December 23, Lt. Sean Egan (E-16-3) hosted members of the Department, Staff Sergeant Fair of the USMC Reserves, and representatives from The Four Seasons Hotel, The Grand Hyatt Hotel, and Let's Meet, an event planning company, to celebrate the achievement. Toys filled the basement at Engine 16, packed the stairwell and spilled out onto the floor. The final toy delivery to the USMC Reserves filled a 15 foot moving van, the Rehab Unit, and an additional 15-passenger van.



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★★★ **Adrian H. Thompson,**
Fire/EMS Chief
Anthony A. Williams, Mayor

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Fire Safety Literature at Metro Stops – Stay Safe While Staying Warm On Thursday, December 30, and Friday, January 7, Fire Marshal Kenneth Watts and members of the Fire Prevention Division, Public Safety Educators, and Firefighters and EMTs distributed fire safety literature ...

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Please e-mail your births, deaths, retirements, marriages or other personal news to share to gwendolyn.smith@dc.gov. Submissions are requested no later than the third Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m.

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Fire/EMS Chief Thompson hosted visiting fire chiefs and a training official from St. Petersburg, Russia, on January 14. Captain Vlassopolous (E-18-2) took them to visit the FFD at Engine 2, Rescue Squad 1, and the Training Academy.

House Select Committee on Homeland Security Press Conference

Members of Engine 13 participated in a press conference called by House Select Committee on Homeland Security Chairman Christopher Cox (R-CA) January 3 in support of a House rules change that has made the select committee a permanent standing committee with jurisdiction over the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). This change, strongly supported by many fire service organizations, reduces the number of House committees DHS must report to, and could help to streamline DHS' interaction with fire departments across the country.

NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo

DC FEMS was among hundreds of exhibitors at the NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo, January 29 and 30 at the Washington Convention Center. An engine, an ambulance, CPR certification, the 911 simulator, and information on Fire and EMS Safety were on display.

New Seagrave Pumpers Coming

The department will be receiving six new Seagrave pumpers in February. These units will be equipped with 1250 gallons per minute two stage Waterous pumps and 500 gallon water tanks. Standard 1 1/2" and 2 1/2" pre connected attack lines will also be included.

These units are equipped with series 60 Detroit engines and Allison automatic transmissions. Also scheduled for delivery in February is a 100 ft. Seagrave tractor trailer aerial. This unit is equipped with a large compartment in the rear, under-the-ground ladders, to carry a de-con wash unit to support the HAZMAT Task Force. The unit will be assigned to Truck 4.

50th Annual DC One Fund Campaign

The 50th annual DC One Fund Campaign kicked off in early November and officially ends on Monday, January 31. DC Fire & EMS is supporting this DC government employee effort to raise money for charitable organizations. As of



Congratulations to Dan Poust of RS-2 and George Frye of T-6 who each rescued a child from this burning rowhouse in the 1300 Block of Randolph St. NW on December 21.



What was reported to be a trash fire January 5 was really a big blaze involving construction materials. Battalion 6 handled the fire with a working fire dispatch and the HAZMAT. No injuries were reported.

January 25, 148 FEMS members have contributed \$36,769.12 for various charitable organizations through the DC One Fund Drive.

Congratulations to members who contributed during the kick-off period and earned the administrative leave time incentive awards. Though the campaign is coming to an end, contributions will still be accepted into February. A charitable donation of just \$1/week can mean a lot to someone in need.

Thank you for your support.

Fire Safety Literature at Metro Stops – Stay Safe While Staying Warm

On Thursday, December 30, and Friday, January 7, Fire Marshal Kenneth Watts and members of the Fire Prevention Division, Public Safety Educators, and

Firefighters and EMTs distributed fire safety literature at the Columbia Heights, Potomac Avenue, and Congress Heights Metro Stations.

These outreach efforts were conducted in response to the recent fires and loss of life attributed to misuse of space heaters. The literature focused specifically on winter safety, space heater safety and the Department's community service sheet.

READI Enhanced Threat and Risk Assessment Course

The READI Institute of George Washington University is offering a course in Enhanced Threat and Risk Assessment, MGT-315, at the Ashburn, Virginia, campus on February 9-10. This is a free offering and is limited to 25 students. Interested members of the Department are encouraged to contact the READI Institute online at Readi411@gwu.edu for information and registration.



Winners of Christmas Trivia Contest: (L to R): Gwen Smith, PIO; Kevette Sullivan, HR; Carmen Ealy-Tate, HR; Erika Evans, HR; and Ebony Taylor, EMS.

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